

Message Text

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TO USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

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INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRESS COVERAGE

GENEVA FOR CSCE

INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. FRIDAY PAPERS FEATURED KISSINGER SPEECH

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URGING OIL USERS TO JOIN; SATURDAY SUNDAY HEADLINES ON

KISSINGER AND MIDEAST WAR SCARE; SUNDAY BALTSUN FRONTPAGE
SOVIET BUILDUP IS BIG ENOUGH TO TIP BALANCE. MONDAY
PAPERS FRONTPAGE FORD IN ASIA. LITTLE FRESH COMMENT.

1A. FRIDAY NYTIMES MOSCOW COMPLAINED US CAMOUFLAGES
MISSILES; BALTSUN REPORTED KOSYGIN HOPEFUL OF SUMMIT ACCORD;
ALSO WILSON HINTS SHARP CUT IN BRITISH FUNDS FOR NATO.
WASHPOST BRUSSELS REPORTED PORTUGAL LEAVING NATO NUCLEAR
PLANNING GROUP AFTER US EFFORTS TO UNSEAT IT BECAUSE OF
COMMUNIST CABINET MEMBER. WASHSTAR HAD BRIEFS ON: TROOP
REDUCTION; KOSYGIN'S MISSILE COMPLAINTS; LUNS TELLS NATO
ASSEMBLY DETERIORATION IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS WOULD ENHANCE
SOVIET MILITARY POWER AND COULD LEAD TO CHOICE BETWEEN
SURRENDER OR NUCLEAR WAR.

1B. SATURDAY NYTIMES HAD MOSCOW SPECIAL, MONDALE
QUESTIONS MOSCOW ON ARMS; ALSO BENTSEN DOUBTS SLASH OF

EUROPEAN FORCE; TIMES AND BALTSUN REPORTED MOSCOW DENIED
ARMS PACT BREACH. SUNDAY WASHSTAR INSIDE HAD SALT OB-
SERVES FIFTH YEAR; ALSO SOLZHENITSYN HITS WEST ON DETENTE
AS ACCEPTING THE STIFLED GROANS OF MILLIONS.

1C. MONDAY WASHPOST REPORTS 30 NATIONS AT NEW DELHI
OPPOSED INDIAN OCEAN BASES; WASHPOST HEADS STORY, MONDALE
CAMPAIGNING FOR PRESIDENT IN MOSCOW.

2. TROOPS. FRIDAY WASHSTAR HAD UNSIGNED ITEM HEADED,
TROOP REDUCTION, SAYING NATO HAS TOLD WARSAW PACT IN
VIENNA THAT IT WON'T ACCEPT A PROPOSAL FOR EQUAL
AMERICAN AND SOVIET TROOP CUTS AS THE FIRST PHASE OF AN
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO ALLIANCES TO REDUCE TROOP
STRENGTH. ITEM ADDS THERE WERE FORECASTS THAT LITTLE
CHANCE FOR SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN EAST-WEST TALKS
REMAINS THIS YEAR.

2A. SATURDAY NYTIMES UPI BONN REPORTED SENATOR BENTSEN
TOLD CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT HE DIDN'T EXPECT THAT CONGRESS
COULD FORCE A SIZABLE REDUCTION IN AMERICAN TROOP STRENGTH
IN EUROPE THIS YEAR, STORY ADDING BENTSEN SAID SCHMIDT WAS
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VERY MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT A UNILATERAL AMERICAN WITH-
DRAWAL, SOMETHING BENTSEN SAID HE DOESN'T SUPPORT.

3. MONDALE. FRIDAY NYTIMES HAD MOSCOW SPECIAL SAYING THAT
IN 3 HOUR TALK WITH KOSYGIN SENATOR MONDALE ASKED ABOUT
REPORTED 150 NEW SOVIET UNDERGROUND SILOS WHICH HAD
RAISED CHARGES IN US THAT SOVIETS ARE VIOLATING TERMS OF
1972 INTERIM ARMS LIMITATION AGREEMENT. KOSYGIN SAID TO

HAVE ASSURED MONDALE THAT THERE WERE NO VIOLATIONS OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE SOVIET SIDE, BUT SIDESTEPED ANY DIRECT RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION ABOUT THE SILOS, AND CHARGED INSTEAD THAT SOME AMERICAN STRATEGIC MISSILES HAD BEEN COVERED WITH TENTS AND POSSIBLY CAMOUFLAGED, AN ALLEGATION MONDALE SAID HE WOULD CHECK ON WHEN HE RETURNED TO US.

3A. FRIDAY BALSUN PARKS MOSCOW REPORTED KOSYGIN TOLD MONDALE THAT SOVIETS EXPECT SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS TOWARD A NEW SALT AGREEMENT AT NEXT WEEK'S SOVIET-AMERICAN SUMMIT MEETING, BUT WARNED THAT RUSSIANS ARE WORRIED BY SHIFT IN AMERICAN POLICY TOWARD ACHIEVING A FIRST STRIKE CAPABILITY AND BY DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW GENERATION OF STRATEGIC WEAPONS. PARKS SAID MONDALE PRESSED SOVIETS HARD TO SHOW GOOD FAITH IN THE UPCOMING NEGOTIATIONS WARNING THEM THAT SHOULD MOSCOW DEPLOY THE VERY LARGE INTERCONTINENTAL AND SUBMARINE-LAUNCHED MISSILES WITH IMPROVED ACCURACY THAT IT HAS DEVELOPED, THE US WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY DEVELOP ITS

OWN NEXT GENERATION OF STRATEGIC ARMS. PARKS ALSO REPORTED MONDALE COULDN'T CONSIDER HIS LENGTHY TALK WITH KOSYGIN SATISFACTORY FOR THE TWO COULDN'T AGREE ON AN APPROACH TO ARMS CONTROL, BUT HE DID FIND IT VERY USEFUL.

3B. SUNDAY NYTIMES HAD MOSCOW SPECIAL SAYING MONDALE HAD URGED SOVIETS TO CONSIDER BOTH QUALITATIVE AND NUMERICAL CONTROLS ON STRATEGIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN THE UPCOMING ARMS TALKS, AND THAT MONDALE WAS NOT ENTIRELY SATISFIED WITH SOVIET RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES ON NEW SILOS AND PLANNED TO OPEN UP SUBJECT OF COMPLIANCE ON ARMS AGREEMENTS TO PUBLIC DEBATE ON RETURN TO WASHINGTON. SPECIAL ADDED MONDALE SAID: SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND WHITE HOUSE KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON AND IT IS ONLY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WHO ARE IN UNCLASSIFIED

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THE DARK.

4. SALT ITEMS. SATURDAY WASHPOST GETLER REPORTED US HAS ASKED FOR A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION; THIS FIRST SPECIAL MEETING WAS REQUESTED SOON AFTER KISSINGER'S RETURN FROM MOSCOW LAST MONTH, BUT SOVIETS HAVEN'T YET AGREED, INSISTING THAT US DESCRIBE IN ADVANCE WHAT IS TO BE DISCUSSED. GETLER SAID WITHIN ADMINISTRATION THERE IS PROBLEM AMONG VARIOUS AGENCIES IN DECIDING WHICH OF VARIOUS RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE RAISED, AS OFFICIALS SAY THERE IS AS YET NO HARD EVIDENCE RUSSIANS ARE VIOLATING SPECIFIC TERMS OF 1972 AGREEMENT BUT THERE IS GROWING FEELING IN SOME QUARTERS THAT IF SOVIETS DO EVERYTHING NOT SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITED IT CAN CAUSE ANXIETIES THAT FUEL THE ARMS RACE. AMONG TOPICS ARE:

RUSSIAN COMMAND POSTS AT MISSILE BASES WHICH COULD CONCEIVABLY BE ALTERED TO HOUSE MISSILES, DIA AND CIA DIFFERENCES IN INTERPRETATION OF ROLE OF A NEW RADAR WHICH COULD BE FOR BOMBER DEFENSE WHICH IS NOT PROHIBITED, IMPEDIMENTS TO SATELLITE EXAMINATION OF MISSILE AND SUBMARINE SITES. SOME AGENCIES FEEL POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS SHOULD BE RAISED BEFORE COMMISSION ANYWAY TO ILLUSTRATE THE NEED TO TIGHTEN UP SUBSEQUENT AGREEMENTS.

4A. SATURDAY NYTIMES MOSCOW SPECIAL REPORTED SOVIET COMMANDER OF MISSILE FORCES ASSERTED SOVIET UNION HAS DONE NOTHING TO VIOLATE ITS 1972 INTERIM AGREEMENT, TOLUBKO DENOUNCING UNOFFICIAL REPORTS IN WEST THAT MOSCOW MAY HAVE VIOLATED THE AGREEMENT AS FABRICATIONS NEEDED BY THE ENEMIES OF INTERNATIONAL DETENTE, TOLUBKO ADDING: NOT A SINGLE SILO FOR A GROUND-BASED LAUNCHING PAD HAS BEEN SET UP SINCE MAY 1972, AND NO TESTS OF NEW INTERCONTINENTAL MOBILE SYSTEMS ARE BEING MADE.

4B. SATURDAY BALTSUN PARKS MOSCOW ALSO REPORTED SOVIET

UNION ANGRILY DENIED CHARGES IT WAS BUILDING ADDITIONAL SILOS FOR LAUNCHING ICBMS AND TESTING NEW MOBILE MISSILE SYSTEMS, TOLUBKO SAYING SOVIET UNION HAS NEVER FAILED TO HONOR ITS COMMITMENTS, REBUTTING CHARGES BY SENATOR BUCKLEY. PARKS NOTED KOSYGIN'S CHARGE US HAD VIOLATED UNCLASSIFIED

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ITS COMMITMENTS BY COVERING ICBM SILOS WITH TENTS, AND PENTAGON REPLIED THE TENTS WERE SIMPLY ALUMINUM SHIELDS TO PROTECT HARDENING CEMENT AND WOULD BE REMOVED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. PARKS SAID TOLUBKO-KOSYGIN REMARKS APPEARED TO REFLECT A HIGH-LEVEL SOVIET CONCERN THAT CRITICISM OF FIRST ARMS AGREEMENT MIGHT UPSET PROSPECTS FOR A SECOND, WHICH WILL BE MAIN VLADIVOSTOK TOPIC.

4C. SUNDAY WASHSTAR HAD GENEVA UPI REPORTING US AND SOVIET UNION TODAY MARK FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF SALT, ADDING THAT OFFICIALS FROM BOTH SIDES CONCEDE THAT THE TALKS WHICH BEGAN IN 1969 HAVE BECOME EVEN MORE DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS. NOTING THAT SALT IS IN RECESS PENDING OUTCOME AT VLADIVOSTOK, UPI ADDS US EXPERTS SAY THERE IS A 50-50 CHANCE ON AGREEMENT BY END OF 1975 BUT THIS WILL BE DIFFICULT.

5. DEFENSE. SUNDAY BALTSUN CORDDRY SHREVEPORT REPORTED AIR FORCE GENERAL DOUGHERTY TOLD A PUBLIC MILITARY WORRY SESSION THAT IMPLICATION OF SOVIET MILITARY MOMENTUM IS CLEAR, AND MOST DISTURBING AND PAINFUL OF ALL IS SEEMING INDIFFERENCE OF A LARGE PART OF THE PUBLIC TO THE HARSH

PROSPECTS. CORDDRY SAID SPEECH WAS BACKED BY MORE DATA AND INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES THAN USUALLY HEARD IN PUBLIC FORUMS, AND PROF. GOURE OF MIAMI SAID MOSCOW BELIEVES WEST IS IN AN UNPRECEDENTED SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL CRISIS AND RUSSIANS MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO UNDERTAKE RISKY VENTURES, ADDING THAT MOSCOW SEEKS NUCLEAR SUPERIORITY-- NOT PARITY.

6. NEWSWEEKLIES. NEWSWEEK PERISCOPE HAS PARA ENTITLED, A SUPER-MISSILE MISSES, SAYING ONE OF RUSSIA'S SUPER-MISSILES, THE NEW SS-18 FLOPPED LAST WEEK ON AN ATTEMPTED TEST FLIGHT FROM THE TYURATAM MISSILE CENTER; IT WAS THE SEVENTH FAILURE IN 29 SS-18 TESTS DURING PAST TWO YEARS. THE MISSILE, WHICH IS DUE FOR DEPLOYMENT SOON, PACKS THE WORLD'S BIGGEST PAYLOAD, ABOUT 15,000 POUNDS, AND CAN CARRY EIGHT OR MORE WARHEADS, EACH RATED AT ABOUT 3 MEGATONS. NOTHING ELSE PERTINENT IN NEWSWEEK OR TIME. INGERSOLL

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